

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

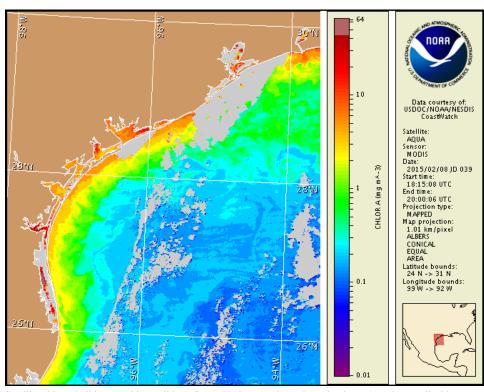
Monday, 09 February 2015

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, February 2, 2015



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from January 30 to February 5: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

 $Detailed \ sample \ information \ can \ be \ obtained \ through \ the \ Texas \ Parks \ and \ Wildlife \ Department \ at: \ http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us./landwater/water/environconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml$

Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Texas red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of Texas. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore Texas Monday, February 9 through Tuesday, February 17.

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations.

Analysis

Due to the upcoming federal holiday, the next bulletin will be issued on Tuesday, February 17.

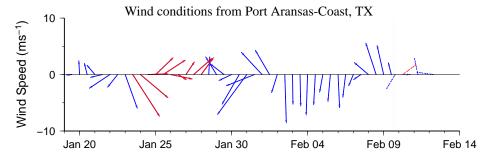
Sampling from Texas A&M University's Imaging FlowCytobot, located on the Port Aransas ship channel, continues to indicate that *Karenia brevis* concentrations range between 'not present' and 'background' (TAMU; 2/2-9). For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Recent MODIS Aqua imagery (2/8, shown left) is partially obscured by clouds from Sabine Pass to Pass Cavallo, limiting analysis in this region. Elevated chlorophyll (2-8 μ g/L) is visible stretching along- and offshore the Texas coast from Sabine Pass to south of the Rio Grande. Elevated chlorophyll is not necessarily indicative of the presence of *K. brevis* and is most likely due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 15 km north from the Port Aransas region from February 8-12.

Kavanaugh, Keeney, Derner

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html

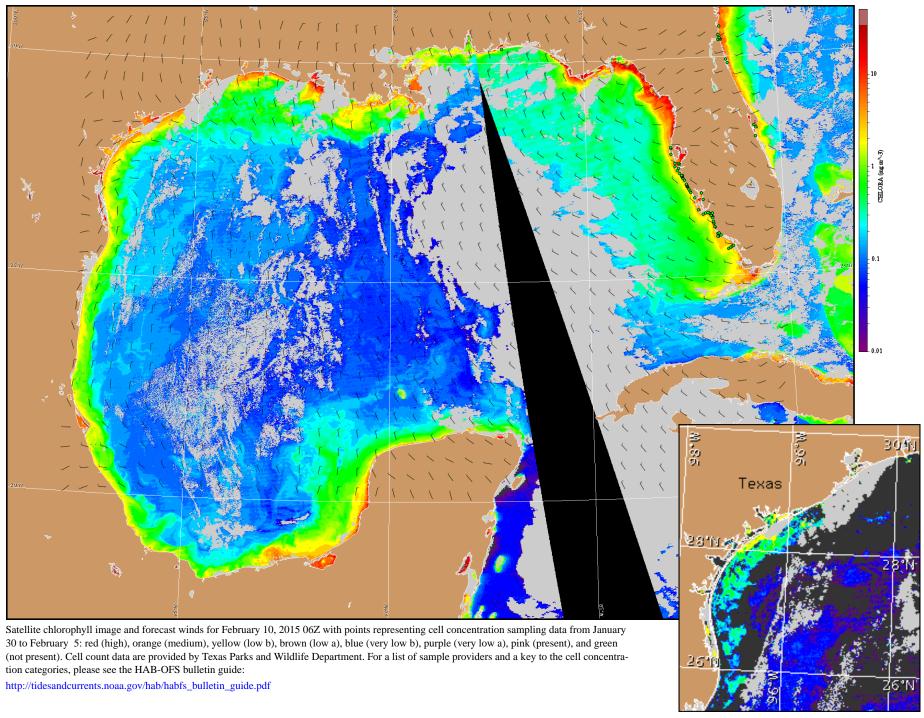


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

-2-

Wind Analysis

Port Aransas: North to northeast winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) today through Tuesday shifting east Tuesday afternoon. Southeast winds (5-10kn) Tuesday night. East winds (5-10kn) Wednesday shifting northeast after midnight. North winds (10-15kn) Thursday becoming northeast winds (5-20kn, 3-10m/s) Thursday afternoon through Friday shifting east Friday afternoon. Southeast winds (5kn, 3m/s) Friday night shifting southwest after midnight.



Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).